

19th 'SHAKARGARH' BN THE FRONTIER FORCE REGT



XIX

PIFFER TIGERS

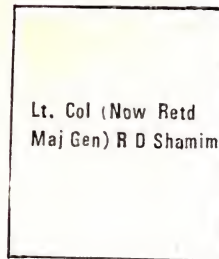
OUR BELOVED COMMANDANTS



Lt. Col. Mohammad Ayub Afridi
(Pioneer of the unit)



Lt. Col. (Now Brig)
Ahmed Fuad. psc



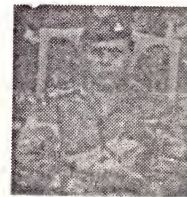
Lt. Col. (Now Retd
Maj Gen) R D Shamim



Lt. Col. Mumtaz Gul, psc, ptsc



Brig Syed Akbar Hussain, SJ, TGA.
(Has the honour of being first SJ of Pakistan Army
personally decorated by Quaid-e-Azam first col. of the Bn)



Lt. Col. (Retd) Khalid Manzoor



Lt. Col. Sanjaf Khan



Lt. Col. Mahmud Azam, fsc (UK)



Lt. Col. (now Brig) Shafiq Ahmed,
SJ, awfc, psc, qsl.
(Who lead the battalion to victory at Shakargah)



Lt. Col. Hamid Mahmood - psc ptsc.
(Who led C/attk coy and has the honour of being first
original officer to command the PEEFER TIGERS)

HISTORY OF THE PIFFER TIGERS

1. The battalion was raised on 26th September 1965 at Abbottabad and was sent to Forward Defended Locality on the main axis Chamb-Akhnur. In June 1966 The battalion moved to Bannu and stayed there till July 1968.

2. Alert at Dacca: On 18th July 1968, battalion sailed for East Pakistan Dacca. During political disturbances of 1969 and 1970, the battalion performed Internal Security and Martial Law duties in Dacca City. During the disastrous floods of 1969, battalion evacuated 4500 casualty at Demra and Khelgaon near Narrayangang. As a result of the good job done by the battalion. The following awards were given to the battalion.

- a. Tamgha-e-Quaid-i-Azam : One
- b. C in C Commendation Cards : One

3. The Piffer Tigers: In 1969 the battalion was selected as first National Integrated battalion with 50% Punjabi, 25% Bengalis and 25% Pathan. With joining of Bengali Muslims, who are commonly known as 'TIGERS' this battalion derived the name 'PIFFER TIGERS'. This was remarked by Chief guest Lieutenant General M. Yaqoob Khan, Governor and Sector Commander former East Pakistan during the induction parade at Dacca Stadium.

4. Victorious at Shakargarh During December, 1971 War under the command of Lt. Col. Shafiq Ahmed SJ. this battalion was assigned the task of defending Shakargarh Town. On 04 December the battalion captured one of the enemy Border Out Post and captured approximately 3 & 4 miles area Between night 14/15 December 1971 enemy made three attempt to capture the Shakargarh Town and launched full fledged attack with a brigade size force. This battalion did extremely well and repulsed the attack with heavy casualties on the enemy persons and equipment. The enemy got the beating and had to run back leaving their dead, prisoners of war and equipment. The mission given to this battalion was accomplished against very heavy odds. Details of enemy/own losses are as under :-

a. Enemy Losses

(1) Dead	:	53	from 3/9 Gorkha and 10 from 4 Gernadiers.
(2) Prisoner of War	:	79	(Including 3 officers and 3 Junior Commissioned Officers)
(3) Wounded	:	Over 200	
(4) Weapons	:	Rifle	: 49
		LMG	: 8
		Sten	: 26
		MG	: 2
		Ammunition	: A large quantity.

b. Own Losses

(1) Shaheeds	:	19	(including one officer)
(2) Wounded	:	32	(incl. two officer and 2 Junior Commissioned officer)

c. Fol awards were given to the battalion.

(1) Sitara-i-Juraat	:	1
(2) Imtiaz Sanad	:	1
(3) COAS Commendation Cards	:	3

d. The battalion was awarded the battle honour "SHAKARGARH 1971" for our War performance at Shakargarh.

e. AWAN WAR COMMITTEE REPORT. After the December 1971 War a Committee was constituted under Lieutenant General Awan who in his report to the Government mentioned the action of PIFFER TIGERS as under

"THE ACTION OF 19 FF HAS BEEN DESCRIBED VERY BRIEFLY. BUT IT IS NO DOUBT A SHINING SPECIMEN OF A COMMENDABLE INFANTRY ACTION. WHENEVER COMMANDERS HAVE KEPT THEIR WITS ABOUT THEM. HAVE MAINTAINED BALANCE IN AN ADVERSE SITUATION, AND HAVE DISPLAYED AGGRESSIVE SPIRIT, THEY WERE REWARDED WITH INSTANT SUCCESS. THIS CAN WELL BE EMULATED BY OTHER INFANTRY UNITS".

PIFFER TIGERS IN ACTION

"The battalion's action during 71 War is glaring example of synergism. THE PIFFER TIGERS bewildered the enemy by their synchronized movements when they embarked upon the noble mission of defending the motherland and destroying the nefarious designs of enemy. The desire to shed their blood in the name of Allah, the strive for the glory of Islam and to uphold the lofty traditions of the Battalion, won for some of them the coveted distinction of 'Shahadat' whereas remainders emerged as Ghazis."



(The Monument of our Shaheeds at SHAKARGARH)

Those laid their lives so that other may live



Maj Mohammad Afzal
(shaheed)



Capt Faryad Ali Rana
(shaheed)



L/Nk Suleman Sarkar SJ
Killed 14 Indian soldiers Hero of the Battle at Shakargarh